77. The desirability of opening a road from Kozhenchery to Thumpaman.

Mr. S. Padmanabha Panikkar (Member, Nominated) said that a road from Kozhenchery to Thumpaman was a serious want to the people of Thumpaman, Elavanthitta, Kuzhikala and Punnakadu, especially because they had no facilities for transport of manure and of communication between the said places where important public institutions such as schools, anchal office, market &c., were located. The subject was one that had been brought up in two previous sessions of the Assembly and the urgency and importance of the road was his excuse in pressing it on the attention of the Government again. He assured the Government that the ryots were prepared to give the lands required for the road free of compensation. He requested therefore for the early construction of the road and presented a memorial signed by several inhabitants of the aforesaid villages on the subject.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

78. Improvement of the irrigation channels in the Shertallai taluk.

Mr. K. Kochu Padmanabha Pillai (Member, Shertallai taluk) observed that, unlike other parts of the State, the ryots of the taluk had not been afforded special facilities for the cultivation of their wet lands, and that agriculture was steadily deteriorating. He therefore requested that the existing irrigation channels which had become silted up and useless for agricultural purposes be deepened and improved at an early date and the necessary culverts provided in some of the channels. He said that he had already given to the Chief Engineer a list of the irrigation channels that had to be immediately repaired.

He added that, attached to the Alleppey-Shertallai canal now under construction, there were a few important canals and requested that those canals should be deepened and improved and rendered fit for navigation.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

79. The desirability of improving the communications in the taluk.

Mr. P. Kochu Padmanabha Pillai (Member, Shertallai taluk) expressed with regret that the Shertallai taluk could not boast of even a single road and that the taluk was the most backward in point of communication. The people were seriously handicapped on that account. He also stated that the Shertallai canal, which was sanctioned by the Government as a result of the repeated representations of the people of the taluk, was not useful to the whole taluk in general as a means of common communication and was progressing only very slowly. He requested that the following works might be carried out at an early date :—

(1) A road from Thanneermukom to Alleppey—12 miles.

(2) A road from Thanneermukom to the Shertallai Taluk Cutcherry 3 miles.

(3) A few useful canals connecting the new Shertallai canal and the Vembanad lake in the east.

He added that the construction of the above roads and canals would not necessitate the acquisition of new lands and could be easily done by the utilisation of the available Sirkar lands and other local facilities. In conclusion, the Member requested that the Dewan might be pleased to visit the taluk and verify personally the sadly neglected condition of the taluk so far as communications were concerned.

Dewan's reply.—The representations of the Member are noted. I shall visit the Shertallai taluk without much delay.

80. Improvement of communications in the Shertallai taluk.

Mr. Krishnan Neelacantan (Member, Shertallai taluk) said that the canal sanctioned for the taluk from Alleppey to Shertallai would not be of use unless three

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly